

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated March 3, 2005. Claims 49 to 87 are in the application, of which Claims 49, 53, 54, 68, and 81 to 84 are independent. Claims 49, 50, 53, 54, 68, and 81 to 84 have been amended herein. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication that Claims 65 to 67 and 78 to 80 contain allowable subject matter.

Claims 49 to 53, 82, 83, and 85 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,176,908 (Bauer). Claim 84 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 5,681,381 (Auslander). Claims 54 to 81, 86, and 87 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,485,188 (Tochihara) in view of Bauer. The rejections are respectfully traversed.

According to one feature of the invention as recited by Claims 49, 54, 68, 81, 82, and 84, the first and second organic compounds dissolved or dispersed in the liquid medium cause liquid-liquid separation upon a decrease in the amount of the liquid medium. According one feature of the invention as recited by Claims 53 and 83, the interface is formed by phase separation of components of a fluorescent ink.

Bauer, Auslander, and Tochihara, either alone or in combination, are not seen to teach or suggest either of the foregoing features.

The dependent claims are also submitted to be patentable because they set forth additional aspects of the present invention and are dependent from the independent claims discussed above. Therefore, separate and individual consideration of each dependent claim is respectfully requested.

Claims 49, 54, 68, 82, and 85 were provisionally rejected for


obviousness-type double patenting over Claim 1 of co-pending Application No. 10/629,620.

Applicants note that a provisional double-patenting rejection should be withdrawn and the application permitted to issue if the provisional double-patenting rejection is the only rejection remaining in an application. See MPEP § 804(I)(B). Applicants submit that the provisional double-patenting rejection is the only remaining issue in this application and therefore respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

The application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants
Damond E. Vadnais
Registration No.: 52,310

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3800
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200